

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 SCA-01 /092 W

-----280123Z 076454 /65

R 270845Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2078

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0349

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MOPS, CG, AO

SUBJ: ACCOUNT BY KASAJI MISSIONARIES OF WAR IN SHABA AND THEIR  
EVACUATION THROUGH ANGOLA

1. CONSULATE HAS OBTAINED COPY OF LETTER WRITTEN BY PROTESTANT  
MISSIONARY FROM KASAJI UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND RECOUNTING  
EVENTS OF INVASION AND HIS ESCAPE FROM KASAJI TO ENGLAND VIA  
ANGOLA. LETTER PROVIDES INTERESTING DETAILS ON CONDUCT OF  
INVADERS, FAZ PERFORMANCE, AND ANGOLAN SCENE.

2. ACCORDING TO MISSIONARY ACCOUNT, NEWS OF ATTACK ON DILOLO,  
KISENGE, AND KAPANGA ARRIVED KASAJI MARCH 8. MOST OF CIVILIAN  
POPULATION FLED KASAJI INTO BUSH MARCH 9-10. KATOKA, 45 KM  
EAST OF DILOLO, TAKEN BY INVADERS ON MARCH 10. ALSO MARCH 10  
CONTINGENT ZAIRIAN TROOPS IN TRUCKS AND APC'S PASSED THROUGH  
KASAJI ENROUTE WEST. MARCH 12 TROOPS RETURNED WITH NO TRUCKS,  
HALF OF APC'S AND CASUALTIES. MARCH 13. A.M. FAZ "CRACK" PARAS  
ARRIVED IN KASAJI. AT 1810 HOURS MARCH 13 INVADERS ATTACKED  
KASAJI. BATTLE, CONSISTING OF FIRING RIFLES AND LIGHT MORTARS,  
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LASTED HALF HOUR. FIGHTING RESUMED AT 2000 HOURS, AND CONTINUED  
SPORADICALLY THROUGH NIGHT AND NEXT MORNING. ACCORDING TO  
MISSIONARY, INVADERS' MORTARS DID NO DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS, AS  
THEY "ALL BANG AND NO SHRAPNEL". "QUITE A NUMBER OF ZAIRE  
TROOPS" KILLED AT KASAJI, HUNDREDS MORE FLED INTO BUSH AND  
MEANCED POPULATION FOR SOME TIME.

3. ONCE INVADERS, WHO CALLED SELVES "CONGOLESE", NOT KATANGANS, TOOK OVER TOWN, THEY COMMANDEERED VEHICLES, AS THEY HAD NONE OF THEIR OWN. FAZ HAD ALREADY LOOTED STORES IN KASAJI, AND WITH THEIR DEPARTURE THERE ENSUED GENERAL FREE-FOR-ALL AMONG LOCAL POPULATION FOR REMAINING GOODS, BUT COMMANDING OFFICERS OF INVADERS IMPOSED STRICT ANTI-LOOTING CONTROLS. MISSIONARY SAYS DURING OCCUPATION/INVASION PERIOD HE NEVER SAW SINGLE CUBAN OR MERCENARY. IN NEXT FOUR WEEKS MOST OF CIVILIAN POPULATION RETURNED TO HOMES, INVADERS' TROOPS CAME AND WEST, AND LIFE RESUMED NORMAL PACE.

4. ON APRIL 11, TWO PLANES ATTACKED KASAJI MISSION AND TOWN WITH ROCKETS AND BOMBS. SUBSEQUENT RAIDS ON APRIL 15 BY TWO MIRAGES AIMING AT RAILROAD LINE, APRIL 16, AND 17. LITTLE DAMAGE, BUT RAIDS DEMORALIZED CIVILIAN POPULATION WHO AGAIN DEPARTED EN MASSE FOR BUSH.

5. MORNING APRIL 18 TRAIN ARRIVED FROM MUTSHATSHA CARRYING LARGE NUMBERS INVADERS' TROOPS FROM EAST, WHO APPARENTLY DEMORALIZED BY BOMBING AND STRAFING. "WORD WENT OUT" CIVILIAN POPULATION TO LEAVE, AND REMAINING STRAGGLERS LEFT. AT THIS POINT PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES DECIDED TO DEPART, APPARENTLY VOLUNTARILY.

6. MISSIONARIES DROVE BY MISSION PICK-UP TRUCK TO DILOLO, ARRIVING APRIL 19. COLONEL FROM INVADING FORCE GAVE THEM PASS TO CROSS TO ANGOLA, BUT CROSSING DELAYED FOR 24 HOURS BECAUSE LOCOMOTIVE STILL IN EAST HAULING SOLDIERS. CROSSING MADE TO TEXEIRA DE SOUSA EARLY A.M. APRIL 20, WHERE INVADERS HAD ARRANGED

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FOR MISSIONARIES TO STAY AT HOME OF PORTUGUESE. MISSIONARY PARTY INCLUDED 23 COUNTING CHILDREN, JOINED ON APRIL 21 BY 10 PRIESTS AND NUNS FROM MUTSHATSHA AND DILOLO. VIRTUALLY NO MILITARY ACTIVITY IN TEXEIRA, ACCORDING TO MISSIONARY ACCOUNT, AND NO CUBANS VISIBLE AS OF APRIL 20-23.

7. MISSIONARIES WENT BY TRAIN FROM TEXEIRA TO LUSO APRIL 23, WHERE THEY STAYED WITH CATHOLIC BISHOP. ON APRIL 28 THEY FLEW TO LUANDA ON FLIGHT ARRANGED BY "SECURITY POLICE" AND "POLITICAL COMMISSIONER".

8. IN LUANDA, MISSIONARIES WELL TRTREATED , ATE WELL DESPITE WHAT LETTER DESCRIBES AS SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGE AND NO BREAD AVAILABLE IN CITY. FINALLY DEPARTED APRIL 30 A.M. ON FLIGHT TO LISBON, WHERE MET BY BRITISH CONSUL, MISSIONARY REP, AND AMERICAN REPORTERS. MOST OF MISSIONARY PARTY CONTINUED ON TO LONDON SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

9. COMMENT: ACCOUNT GENERALLY CONFIRMS PREVIOUS REPORTING ON SEIZURES OF TOWNS, TROOP MOVEMENTS, CONDUCT BY FAZ, AND FLIGHTS

OF CIVILIAN POPULATION. MOST INTERESTING NEW FEATURES SEEM TO BE:  
(A) REPORT OF EFFECT OF FAZ BOMBING ON MORALE OF INVADERS;  
(B) INDICATION THAT INVADERS FLED MUTSHATSHA A FULL WEEK BEFORE  
FAZ RECAPTURED TOWN ON APRIL 25, (C) MISSIONARIES' COMMENT ON  
ABSENCE OF CUBANS AND MERCENARIES AMONG INVADERS; (D) REPORT  
OF LOW LEVEL OF MILITARY PRESENCE IN TEXEIRA DE SOUSA AS OF  
TIME OF MISSIONARY PASS-THROUGH; (E) FACT THAT MISSIONARIES  
TOOK TRAIN FROM TEXEIRA TO LUSO BUT FLEW LUSO TO LUANDA, WHICH  
WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH REPORTS TO EFFECT ANGOLA GOVERNMENT  
CONTROL OVER AREA WEST OF LUSO NEAR RAILROAD LINE LESS THAN SECURE.  
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## Message Attributes

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